

MATH 215 FALL 2023
Homework Set 8: §16.1 – 16.3
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1. Compute $\int_C x^2 y \, ds$, where C is the segment of the helix of radius 1 about the z -axis, oriented counter-clockwise in the xy -plane, starting at $(1, 0, 0)$ and ending at $(0, 1, \frac{\pi}{2})$.
2. Compute $\int_C x^2 \, dx + y^2 \, dy$, where C is the circular arc starting at $(2, 0)$ and ending at $(0, 2)$ followed by the straight line segment from $(0, 2)$ to $(-1, 1)$.
3. Do Exercise 53 of §16.2 in *Stewart's Multivariable Calculus*.
4. A wire has the shape of a helix with parametrization $x = t, y = 2 \cos t, z = 2 \sin t$ for $0 \leq t \leq 6\pi$, where distances are measured in cm. Find the mass and the center of mass of the wire if the density (in grams/cm) of the wire at any point is equal to four times the square of the distance from the origin to the point.

5. Let $\vec{F} = \nabla f$ where $f(x, y) = \frac{y^{2002}}{1+x^{200002}+y^{2002}}$. Can you find a (smooth, simple, but not necessarily closed) curve C with the following property:

(a) $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \frac{1}{2}$

Solution: By the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, this integral is equal to the value of $f(x_1, y_1)$ at the beginning of the curve subtracted from $f(x_2, y_2)$ at the end of the curve. So, we find two points where $f(x_2, y_2) - f(x_1, y_1) = \frac{1}{2}$. $(0, 0)$ and $(0, 1)$ satisfy these conditions. So, the line segment from $(0, 0)$ to $(0, 1)$ fulfills this property.

(b) $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = 1$

Solution: The minimum value of f is 0 at $(0, 0)$, and only the limit at $(0, \infty)$ is 1. Thus, there is no finite curve where this is true. If an infinite curve is allowed, then the infinite line beginning at the origin along the y -axis satisfies this property.

6. Do Exercises 11, 31, and 32 of §16.3 in *Stewart's Multivariable Calculus*.

Solution

11. (a) The vector field is conservative, the gradient of the function $f(x, y) = x^2 y$. Thus, the Fundamental Theorem of Line integrals applies. Since all these curves begin and end at the same point, the line integrals have the same value.

(b) $f(3, 2) - f(1, 2) = \boxed{16}$

31. This vector field is not conservative because any counterclockwise path will have positive work, whereas clockwise paths will have negative work. Thus, this field is not the gradient of a function.
- 32.

7. (a) Calculate $\oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$ where

$$\vec{F}(x, y) = \left\langle \frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, \frac{y^2 - x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \right\rangle$$

for $(x, y) \neq (0, 0)$ and C is the circle of radius R centered at the origin, oriented clockwise.

Solution: We can parameterize this by $C(t) = \langle R \sin(t), R \cos(t) \rangle, 0 \leq t \leq \pi$. Then $C'(t) = \langle R \cos(t), -R \sin(t) \rangle$. The integral is then

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \frac{2 \sin(t) \cos(t)}{R^2}, \frac{\cos^2(t) - \sin^2(t)}{R^2} \right\rangle \cdot \langle R \cos(t), -R \sin(t) \rangle dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} 2 \sin(t) \cos^2(t) - \sin(t) \cos^2(t) + \sin^3(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(t) \cos^2(t) + \sin^3(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(t) (\sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t)) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin(t) dt \\ &= \boxed{0} \end{aligned}$$

We could also have noticed that \vec{F} is the gradient of the function $f(x, y) = \frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}$. Following from the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, a line integral of a conservative vector field on a closed curve is 0. \square

- (b) Repeat the previous part, only this time take the curve C to be the ellipse defined by $4x^2 + 9y^2 = 36$, oriented counterclockwise. Hint: It may be possible to do this integration without parametrizing the ellipse.

Solution: \vec{F} is the gradient of the function $f(x, y) = \frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}$. Following from the Fundamental Theorem of Line Integrals, a line integral of a conservative vector field on a closed curve is $\boxed{0}$. \square